

An Omaha Standard pick-up service body



## Palfinger buys in USA

Austrian-based loader crane and aerial lift manufacturer Palfinger has acquired Omaha Standard a leading producer of truck bodies and tail lifts in the USA.

Established more than 80 years ago, Omaha employs around 450 mostly at its state-of-the-art manufacturing and assembly plant with advanced E coat paint facility in Council Bluffs, Iowa, along with nine body workshops and service outlets across the USA. It also distributes its products through a network of around 400 dealers. Virtually all of its business is in North America, and includes pick up service bodies to which small telescopic cranes are usually mounted.

The company has revenues in the region of €55 million which will effectively double Palfinger's North American revenues to around €100 million or 10 percent of Palfinger group sales.

Palfinger plans to utilise Omaha's production facility to assemble some of its other products in order to provide more protection against currency swings.

The company will become a subsidiary of Palfinger USA with the Omaha facility continuing under its existing management team. The takeover takes Palfinger's manufacturing or assembly locations in North America to four, while the distribution network will increase to ten owned locations, 150 independent dealers plus 500 sales and service centres.

Palfinger's chief financial officer designate, Christoph Kaml, who is currently managing director of Palfinger America said: "In the past few years Omaha Standard has invested heavily in the expansion of its production site which boasts a high-tech plant and efficient production processes. Its standards are truly on a par with those of Palfinger in every respect."

"The ongoing financial and economic crisis in North America has prevented necessary capacity utilisation from being achieved thus far. For this reason both companies stand to profit from this acquisition. Omaha Standard ideally complements our existing operations in this market, in terms of both product portfolio and production and distribution capacities."

## Allan Access fails



An Allan Access VT130 Land Rover lift off the tracks

Allan Access - the Market Harborough-based distributor of vehicle mounted lifts has been placed into administration. Phil Allan the owner and managing director of the company has so far declined to comment on the situation. Allan has been active in the UK van and truck mounted market almost since its inception, and is likely to remain active in one way or another. He

is continuing to operate and has another company Allan Access Hire Ltd which had been dormant. The company's products include Niftylift vehicle mounts, Sorage trucks and spiders, Terex Utilities insulated platforms and the company's own range of Land-Rover and van mounted boom lifts.

The company had gone through a difficult period due to the shortage of vans and Land-Rover chassis, which prevented it shipping machines in the second half of 2007, but as these began coming through it began ramping back up to fulfill orders.

# Vertikal Days 2009

Vertikal Days 2009 - the UK's only crane, access and telehandler show - will be on Wednesday June 24th and Thursday June 25th 2009 - the dates selected by the majority of exhibitors. Location once again will be at Haydock Park racecourse.

**Vertikal days**

If you are a potential exhibitor there is plenty of space although the sooner you confirm your interest, the better the space you are likely to have. Pending any unforeseen surprises, the plan is to hold prices at this year's levels, a new exhibitors' manual will be issued shortly.

If you have any thoughts on how the event can be improved, or suggestions for seminars or meetings that might run alongside please contact the organisers.

## Spider lifts



The spider on the Concourse Tower

A giant mechanical spider standing 16 metres high and weighing 37 tonnes was found exploring Liverpool during a weekend in September.

Ainscough Crane Hire was called in to move the spider around a number of the City's landmarks.

The job involved 16 different cranes from the Ainscough fleet, ranging from 25 tonnes to 300 tonnes, carrying out an incredible 300 crane lifts.

A 225 tonne Liebherr LTM 1225 with 74 tonnes of counterweight accompanied by a 100 tonne Liebherr LTM 1095, loaded and unloaded the beast from the city's Concourse Tower, while a 300 tonne Liebherr LTM 1300 with 112

tonnes of counterweight lifted the spider into the water at Salthouse Dock.

Various 55 tonne, 80 tonne and 100 tonne cranes were used in the setting up of the shows put on by the mechanical arachnid and were used in the transport of special effect machines that followed the spider on its journey through Liverpool.

The spectacular piece of street theatre was commissioned for the city's European Capital of Culture, which Ainscough Crane Hire says it was proud to support.

## Manitou buys Gehl

US based telehandler manufacturer Gehl is to be acquired by Manitou - Gehl's largest single shareholder following several years of co-operation between the two companies in North America. The all cash deal values each Gehl share at \$30, valuing the company at \$450 million.

William Gehl chairman and chief executive of Gehl said: "We are pleased to announce the next step in the evolution of Gehl towards becoming a more significant player in the global compact equipment marketplace." Manitou already owns 14.4 percent of Gehl's equity and Manitou chief executive Marcel-Claude Braud is a Gehl director. The acquisition will add skid steer loaders to the Manitou product line, and give it a share in the North American telehandler market of somewhere in the region of 15 percent. It will also boost revenues at the French company to around \$2.3 to \$2.5 billion.

## Cranes & Access Top 30 Hirers

As is almost inevitable we made a few errors and omissions in last month's Top 30 rental companies, many thanks to all that have called, we are carrying the updates and corrections on Page 52.

## ALE launches 4,300 tonne lifting machine



ALE Heavylift has unveiled its new AL.SK90 capable of lifting loads up to 4,300 tonnes. The unit has been designed and built by ALE in Holland specifically for a petro chemical contract in Saudi Arabia with a view to being able to lift a 100 metre long, 3,000 tonne item.



4000 tonnes of ballast

main boom. Other tests to be completed include 1,500 tonnes at 69 metres and 540 tonnes at 114 metres radius.



Testing 3000 tonnes at 31.5 metre radius

With little modification - widening the base - the crane's capacity can be increased to 5,000 tonnes, making it an AL.SK120. The crane can be equipped with a standard winching system for weights up to 600 tonnes and a strand jack system for loads up to 5,000 tonnes. Design began in December 2006 following a negative response for such a machine from the major crane manufacturers.

By the end of 2007 fabrication work involving 65 companies from around the world had begun. At the launch the unit was lifting 3,000 tonnes at 31.5 metre radius on a 130 metre



## New Liebherr LTM1100



Liebherr has unveiled details of its new LTM1100-4.2 100 tonne All Terrain crane with longer boom and higher lift capacities. The new crane replaces the popular LTM1100-4.1 which was introduced at Intermat 2003, since when more than 350 units have been shipped.

The crane includes a new seven section, 60 metre main boom, eight metres longer than its predecessor, two seven metre long lattice sections can be pinned to the main boom nose in order to provide a 77 metre high pivot point for the 10.8 to 19 metre bi-fold swing-away extension which offsets manually by 0, 20 or 40 degrees... or it can be ordered with hydraulic offset infinitely variable from 0 to 40 degrees from a control in the cab.

When fully rigged the machine offers a maximum under hook height of 91 metres and a radius of up to 58 metres. Capacities, particularly on the fully extended main boom at higher boom angles, are improved by up to 30 percent.

The new four axle crane has a compact chassis - just 10.6 metres long and 2.75 metres wide. Outrigger spread is seven metres, although it can also be set up with a five metre spread to work in confined areas.

## Tanfield "adjusts capacity" at Snorkel

Tanfield, owner of UpRight and Snorkel, has announced that it is shutting down its principal US production facility, the Snorkel plant in Elwood, Kansas for one week commencing 27th October in order, according to the company "To bring production capacity in line with current market demand - whilst preserving the installed capability and skilled resource."

The company's customer care team and sales force will be continue to be fully operational throughout the period. The shut down follows a similar one at the Genie Industries plant in Moses Lake in September, which has been followed by further layoffs, and at JLG's us plants in August.





Maniwoc UK

## Maniwoc on the move

Maniwoc has opened two new production halls at its Wilhelmshaven plant - a 2000 sq metre dedicated production 'hanger' for the assembly of the Grove GTK1100 heavy duty telescopic tower crane and a 2,600 sq metre hall plus an adjoining office block to manage the complete assembly process for superstructures on the GMK range of All-Terrain cranes. It features two production lines, an engine assembly area and two new cells for boom assembly.

An additional 12,000 square metres of paved area has also been created for testing and storage of the GTK. The company has also opened a new customer handover area for customers collecting their cranes in person.

In the UK, Maniwoc has also completed its move into its new premises in Gawcott near Buckingham.

## New Kobelco to Q

The UK's first 110 tonne Kobelco CKE 1100 crawler crane - delivered to Manchester-based Q-Plant Hire - has gone straight to work on a river diversion contract in Bilston, Staffordshire. The unit joins five other Kobelco cranes in Q-Plant's 25 unit crawler crane fleet.

The job - by the Steel Foundations division of Volker-Stevin for

contractor Fitzpatrick - involves the installation of some 6,000 square metres of eight to 15 metre long sheet steel piles to divert Darlaston Brook which runs along the edge of the new site and adjacent to the main A463 Black Country Route.

The CKE1100 slots in between Kobelco's 90 and 135 tonne models, and features a 3.5 metre to 5.3 metre extendable track system. The crane can be reduced to less than 70 tonnes, for road transport by removing the boom and two counterweight sections. Maximum main boom is 70 metres, with a range of fixed off-set jibs up to a maximum combination of 61 metres main boom plus 21.3 metre jib, for a hook height of 72 metres and a working radius of 55 metres.

Q managing director Anthony Quinn said: "There is a continuing healthy demand for crawler cranes in the UK, especially for heavy infrastructure projects. Many main contractors have reduced their own fleets in recent years which has further boosted demand at a time when the benefits and cost-effectiveness of crawler cranes have been 'rediscovered'."



The new Kobelco CKE1100 at work in Bilston, Staffordshire

## Three new Chinese truck cranes

Maniwoc will launch three new Dongyue truck cranes at Bauma China next month - the 10 tonne GT-10, 18 tonne GT-18 and the 25 tonne GT-25 - all of which are manufactured at its facility in Tai'an, China.

Gilles Martin, executive vice president for Maniwoc in Asia-Pacific, said: "Although the new truck cranes are currently for the Chinese market only, we are on the road to building international quality truck cranes at this facility."

Maniwoc created the joint venture with Tai'an Dongyue Heavy Machinery Co earlier this year and the new business and products resulting from the partnership are known as Maniwoc Dongyue.

## First LTM11200 goes to work

The first Liebherr 1,200 tonne LTM11200-9.1 telescopic crane to be delivered has arrived with Mammoet and went straight to work on Rotterdam's old post office (PTT) tower. The crane has been ordered with the 100 metre boom-off configuration where the boom is transported on a regular truck and four long hydraulic cylinders are swung into place to jack the boom clear of the trailer in a similar way to a self erecting crawler crane.



The new crane arrives and installs its boom - note the four boom jacks which unload it from its carrier and allow the crane to drive in under

The crane is soon ready to go, check out those outrigger mats!

## Tanfield writes off £75 million

Tanfield, owner of UpRight and Snorkel has taken a £75 million write down of its assets in its first half results. Aside from the exceptionals the company increased revenues by more than 150 percent to £92.8 million, compared to £36.8 million in the first half of 2007 and doubled operating profits to £10.3 million.

The company says that it has £12 million in cash and that cash flow is expected to improve in the fourth quarter. It also says that it has no debt and is therefore sufficiently funded for the medium term.

Powered access represented 79 percent of revenues at £72.9 million with electric vehicles making up the balance. The effect of the massive write offs was to turn last year's pre tax profit of £5.3 million into a loss of more than £65 million.

The write offs include most, if not all, of the goodwill in Snorkel, acquired this time last year, which resulted in a £33 million hit, a further £15 million in intangible assets, £15 million of inventory, and an £11.5 million write down in its receivables. Virtually all of the write-downs were within the aerial lift business.

# First Ruthmann T580 arrives in UK

The first 58 metre Ruthmann T580 truck mounted lift and only the second to be shipped so far has arrived in the UK after being a star attraction at the recent APEX show.

The new lift, one of the highest available on a 26 tonne truck, has entered the AA Access fleet. Proud owner Andy Ainsworth was in Maastricht to see the new unit in his colours and arrange final delivery.



Andy Ainsworth with his shiny new T580

## Scarborough heights



(L-R) Shane Wakeford takes delivery of his new Dino 160XT from Mark Caves of Promax Access

A new access company has opened in Scarborough, North Yorkshire. High Reaching solutions is owned by Shane Wakeford, who having worked in the aerial lift market 'was bitten by the bug' and decided to launch his own business. The company is also acting as a work at height consultant, advising companies and

homeowners with work at height problems on the best equipment for the job and then sourcing it from local rental companies.

## Tower crane drops its load

A luffing jib tower crane working on a building in York Road, Waterloo, London at the end of September, dropped an air conditioning unit from 30 metres, striking a young woman waiting at a bus stop. The woman, in her mid-20s was taken to hospital and was later released. The Health and Safety Executive is investigating. The accident occurred as a group was marking the second anniversary of the Battersea tower crane accident just a mile or two away.

## Big order for Hiab

Hiab has received an order for 428, 133AT-2 loader cranes and 32 Multilift MPH085 hook-lifts, worth €15 million, from BAE Systems Inc for the US Army.

The equipment will be installed on the US Army's Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV). Delivery of the equipment will start during the fourth quarter 2008, with most of the deliveries taking place during 2009.

## ...While restructuring is planned

Hiab's owner Cargotec, has downgraded its full-year forecasts and now expects this year's margins will fall below the 2007 level of 7.3 percent, due largely to lower orders at Hiab.

Hiab's profitability has also been weakened by higher costs and slower start-up of its component factory in Narva, Estonia. As a result Cargotec says that it will initiate restructuring measures which could include laying off around 700 people.

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## Instant-UpRight unveils new quartet

Instant-UpRight the alloy tower/non powered access manufacturer unveiled four new products earlier this month at its annual distributor and major account meeting.

The new products are the Instant Step-Up, a podium platform with five different platform heights of to 1.4 metres; the Double Width



The new Instant Step Up podium step platform.



A GRP Snappy

Snappy which offers a more stable and larger working platform; eight components to convert its standard Span 300 or Span 400 towers into stairway towers and it is testing reaction to a fibreglass tower including a Snappy. The company is considering marketing a version of the GRP tower made by Advance Scaffold of Australia which it produces in China.



Malcolm Davies (L) and Simon Michael of Kirkby Tyres

## A new crane tyre for the UK

Davies Crane Hire of Carmarthen, South Wales - which runs All Terrains and crawler cranes from eight to 200 tonnes capacity - has become the first significant UK crane company to switch to Double Coin crane tyres as its preferred brand, following an extended evaluation period.

The tyres are being supplied by Liverpool-based Kirkby Tyres & Wheels, the exclusive distributor in the UK and Ireland with Carmarthenshire Tyre Services providing the local support.

Managing director, Malcolm Davies said: "After testing the product over a number of months alongside other more well-known brands, I am now convinced that switching to Double Coin has been the right decision which is already paying dividends in both cost and product quality."

Double Coin tyres are manufactured in China and have been available in the North American truck and bus market since 1992. More recently it has introduced a range of specialist tyres such as the All Terrain crane tyres.

## Oshkosh more upbeat

Oshkosh expects earnings for its fourth quarter to be at or above the higher end of its earlier forecasts thanks to the reductions in its workforce and other cutbacks.

The company also expects its debt to be around \$50million lower than it had expected at \$2.80-\$2.85 billion.

### ...And the subject of a lawsuit

The Iron Workers Local No. 25 Pension Fund has filed a class action lawsuit against Oshkosh, the parent company of JLG and its chief executive Robert Bohn, for violation of federal securities laws.



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## Genie breaks ground in China

Genie executives laid the corner stone of the new manufacturing facility in Changzhou, China last month on a site chosen for its ability to be enlarged as part of a future Terex Corporation manufacturing campus.



The corner stone for Genie's new plant in China.

When production begins sometime next year, the initial focus will be Genie AWP personnel lifts, but a full range of aerial work platform products is planned for the local Asian market.

Tim Ford, president, of Terex Aerials said: "This endeavour underscores

our goal of becoming the most global aerial work platform manufacturer, with local production to meet local needs. China will become one of the largest aerial work platform markets in the world. We know it will happen, and we are positioning ourselves for it."

## Access Link meets MEC



Aerial lift and telehandler manufacturer MEC hosted the quarterly meeting of the UK's Access Link in Oswestry, Shropshire.

Aerial lift and telehandler manufacturer MEC hosted the quarterly meeting of the UK's Access Link last month at the Lions Quay Hotel in Oswestry, Shropshire.

The Link meeting covered a wide agenda of subjects including discussions on a number of new membership applications.

## Skyking mega deal

Skyking, the UK Wumag/Palfinger dealer, has signed its largest ever single order worth more than £5 million which includes six units ranging from 40 metres to 103 metres working height.



(L-R) Ted Williams, Martin Cowley and Mark Carrington of SkyKing, Herbert Ortner and Stephan Kulawik of Palfinger and Richard Bryant from SkyKing.

The machines are to be delivered to an undisclosed UK customer over the next 18 months and includes the first Wumag WT1000, 102.5 metre lift for the UK. SkyKing has already sold a WT1000 to McNallys in Ireland. This

deal takes SkyKing's orders over the past 12 months to £10 million.

## Skyjack holds steady

First half revenues in the industrial segment of Linamar, which is largely Skyjack, were C\$281 million (\$263 million), marginally up on the same period in 2007.

Operating income however slipped 24 percent to C\$32 million (\$30 million) due to lower sales in Europe. Higher Research and Development costs for the accelerated new product programme, plus higher costs to market the new ranges also eroded profitability. Overall the group performed well, with revenues up around three percent and net profits up by almost six percent.

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# Happy 40th

Riwal, the Dordrecht, Holland, based access and telehandler rental company celebrated its 40th birthday at the recent APEX show with a big party on its stand for customers, suppliers and colleagues.

During the party JLG - Riwal's largest supplier - presented a special birthday present - a finely detailed, one-off hand made model of a JLG 860 SJ boom lift - to the company and its owners. The presentation was made by JLG



(L-R) Dick Schalekamp-Jnr, Craig Paylor, Doron Livnat, Jaap Schalekamp and founder Dick Schalekamp

president Craig Paylor to founder Dick Schalekamp and current owners Dick Schalekamp jnr, Doron Livnat and Jaap Schalekamp.

Riwal's history dates back to 1968, when Dick Schalekamp established Richards & Wallington International, the Dutch division of the UK-based crane rental company. The business was renamed Riwal in 1987 when it added an access division. Doron Livnat began co-operating

with the company from this period, buying into the business in 2000. Since then the company has grown rapidly and consistently and now operates a fleet exceeding 11,000 aerial lifts along with telehandlers and other products across 15 countries. It sold the original crane business to Sarens in 2007.

# Break out the Sake



Maeda president Shunichi Tsuchiya (L) and Christer

Dijnér managing director of Kranlyft in the breaking of the seal on a large barrel of traditional Japanese Sake, which was promptly consumed by all those present.

Kranlyft has officially opened its new headquarters in Molnlycke, near Goteborg, Sweden at a ceremony in September, celebrating the event with its principal supplier/partner Maeda Seisakusho. Most of Kranlyft's dealers sent representatives to the event which included the unveiling of two new Maeda cranes - the six tonne LC1385 and the 590mm wide, 1.74 tonne mini MC174.

The president of Maeda, Shunichi Tsuchiya, cut the ribbon and then joined Christer

## Just the part

Independent Parts & Service, the Telford based international parts and service provider, has signed a 50:50 joint venture to distribute parts in South Africa.

George Landsberg of Johannesburg based rental company Johnson Access signed the joint venture with IPS business development director Rick Mustillo.



Rick Mustillo (L) with George Landsberg just after the signing

"IPS supplies the systems backup and purchasing with the two companies providing local knowledge," said Mustillo. "No-one in South Africa is currently offering this so it is a good opportunity for IPS to establish itself in a growing market."

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# 1,200 tonne burnout

A 1,200 tonne Gottwald AK912 belonging to Abnormal Load Engineering (ALE) caught fire in early October near Gabès, Tunisia.

The crane was travelling to a British Gas LPG project in Gabès where it was due to work on an offloading and reception facility. The crane is very badly damaged and could possibly be beyond repair. Regardless it will certainly be out of action for some time.



## Shady Grove expansion opened

Manitowoc has officially opened a new 4,600 square metre area in the final assembly building and a 930 square metre addition to the boom assembly area at its Shady Grove, Pennsylvania crane manufacturing plant in a ceremony at the end of September.



(L-R) Craig Rockwell of Rockwell Construction; Glen Tellock; Eric Etchart; Bud Hay and Larry Weyers all from Manitowoc cut the ribbon, inaugurating the new expansion.

The company says the expansions will increase capacity, while improving lead times and quality throughout the plant. It will specifically impact the Rough Terrain and All Terrain crane production lines and has added 170 new jobs.

Eric Etchart, president of Manitowoc Cranes said: "Shady Grove is one of our flagship factories. For our customers it represents everything that is great about our company - tradition, strength, reputation and quality. We want to build on our success here. Grove has enjoyed 60 strong years in the community. We want to lay the foundations now for the next 60 years, and beyond."

The Shady Grove plant produces Grove All-Terrain, Rough-Terrain, truck-mounted and industrial cranes as well as National Crane boom trucks.

## Blow the whistle

The National Access and Scaffolding Confederation is stepping up the pressure on construction and building sites by encouraging its members to 'whistle blow' on contractors who continue to opt for non-regulated scaffolding companies. The new facility is available in the members' area of the NASC website and follows publication of its latest annual Safety Report which shows that the number of regulated scaffolding operatives is rising with a corresponding fall in incidents.

Kevin Mouatt, president of NASC said: "Lowest price is still being selected over best practice and regulation in some corners of the construction industry. Sites opting for non regulated scaffolding contractors are turning a blind eye to scaffolding safety and this has to stop! Scaffolding is one of the safest forms of access equipment, as long as it is being used correctly."



The NASC's annual safety report is available free of charge from the NASC by emailing [enquiries@nasc.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@nasc.org.uk)



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ANSI models shown.



- **Mike Wishart** and Access Rentals, the Telford, based aerial lift rental company that he headed as managing director, have parted company.



Mike Wishart

- **Zip-Up Svenska** the Swedish based access specialist has recently celebrated 30 years in business.

- **Abba Plant Hire** has become the first UK company to purchase the Genie GTH-5022 R 22 metre 360 degree telehandler.



Linda Betts, Nick Howes, John Hoyes of Abba Plant Hire

- Italian crane producer **Locatelli** has appointed St. Petersburg-based Italtechimport as its dealer for Russia and Interbudtechnica as the official agent based in Kiev.

- A new **MEWP operators guide** has been published by the Arboricultural Association.

- **Alimak AB, Sweden, and Hek Manufacturing B.V.** of the Netherlands, will be renamed Alimak Hek AB and Alimak Hek Manufacturing B.V. respectively.

- **Blade Access Hire**, of Bradford, West Yorkshire, UK, has added a 50m Bronto S50HDT to its growing fleet.

- **Hertz Equipment Rental** is opening its first location in Shanghai, China with aerial lifts, compressors and generators, with plans to add cranes later.

- **Unic Cranes Europe** has appointed new spider crane distributors in Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

- **IPAF** is organising an open forum meeting for all aerial lift manufacturers the day before the SAIE exhibition in Bologna.

- Steel maker **Corus** has been fined £15,000 after a crane operator was struck by a 1.7 tonne section of steel tubing when it fell from a crane.

- A **Unic 706 Spider crane** has been transported to the Pearl 2 gas platform, some 40 miles offshore from Qatar to assist with steelwork construction.

- **John Ball**, the current president of **IPAF** and managing director of **Easi UpLifts** has gained his Pal card operator's licence.

- **A.M.P Access** - the Lavendon regional group member in the South West of England - is now officially under the Panther banner.



Stuart Cohen

- **Stuart 'Stu' Cohen** has joined **Instant-UpRight**, the alloy tower producer to head up its North American sales efforts.

- **Genie** has taken back 21 aerial lifts from **Skylift Hire** of Limerick after the funding was withdrawn in face of the current credit crisis.

- **Vp** the owner of **UK Forks**, the UK telehandler rental company has appointed **Stephen Rogers** as a new non-executive director.

- **Liebherr Nenzing** has delivered its 200th LHM 400 mobile harbour crane to **Patrick Stevedoring**, Australia's largest stevedore.

- **Vestas offshore** is using **Certex** software to track all of its lifting gear on its **Whitstable Harbour** wind farm.

- **JCB Service** has won the **Queen's Award** for Enterprise after increasing its overseas sales by more than 36 percent between 2004 and 2006.

- **New York City** officials have filed charges against two brothers, who were helping to dismantle a tower crane earlier this month when a co-worker fell to his death.

- **AJ Access Platforms** has completed its rebranding with a new logo and image that has been applied throughout the company

- **Marino Crane** of Middletown Connecticut has been acquired by **Barnhart Crane and Rigging** of Memphis Tennessee

- **Havlíkův Brod based Trasek TS**, has been appointed as the **Niftylift** distributor for the Czech Republic.

- **WorldLift Industries**, manufacturers of **Falck Schmidt** and **Denka** aerial lifts - has applied to join **IPAF**.

- The USA **Occupational Safety and Health Administration** has announced that it will go ahead and publish the draft of the new rule for cranes in construction.

- **Manitowoc** has obtained antitrust clearance from the EU and US anti trust authorities for the acquisition of food equipment company **Enodis**

- A man has been injured after the boom of a crawler crane collapsed at the **Point Depot** development in Dublin.

- **Manitowoc** has appointed **BLE**, currently the Grove distributor for Belgium, as the dealer for **Potain** self-erecting cranes in the country.

- **Brian Parker** of **AFI-Uplift** the UK access rental company, has taken on additional Health & Safety, environmental and quality responsibilities.

- More than **\$300,000** in fines are being sought from three companies in the fatal **New York tower crane** accident that killed seven in March.

- The **UK's Strategic Forum for Construction** has launched its tower crane website with advice and guidance for contractors and members of the public.

- **Arnie Dirckinck-Holmfeld** has left **Instant-UpRight** to join German-based powered access company manufacturer **PB**.

- **Verania Costa Rivas** has joined **PSE** the Dutch based access sales company as part of a move into the Iberian market.



Verania Costa Rivas

- **New York-based JPW Riggers** has sold all of its small lifting equipment in order to focus on its growing wind farm business.

- **United Rentals**, the world's largest rental company has reached a final **\$14 million** settlement with the SEC, closing the long running investigation.

- **Manitou South Africa** has signed an agreement to distribute **CVS Ferrari** container handling equipment in Southern Africa.

- **Altrad**, the Montpellier, France-based scaffold and concrete equipment manufacturer, has agreed to merge with **Belle**, the UK-based producer of compact equipment.



Magnus Rosen

- **Ramirent** has appointed **Magnus Rosen**, previously with **Cramo**, as its new president and CEO.

- UK based **cranes2u.com** has added a **Maeda MC285** to its new fleet of spider cranes.

- **Wayne MacDonald**, senior vice president of engineering at **JLG** has announced that he will retire at the end of the month.



Wayne MacDonald

- **Jackie Hanford** is leaving **SED**, the UK construction equipment show after 30 years.

- The **UK Health & Safety Executive** has appointed **Stephen Williams** to the newly created post of director of field operations London and the Olympics.

- The first 1,200 tonne **Liebherr LTM1200-9.1** to arrive in the British Isles will enter service shortly with **McNally/Windhoist** of Ireland.

- **Maxim Crane** has been fined for the fatal big crawler crane accident at a Kansas power station this May.

- **Alex Lee**, previously general manager of **SGB Powered Access** in the UK, has left the company.

- **Paul Gallacher** of **Pop-Up Products** and chairman of **Pasma**, the access tower industry association celebrated his 50th birthday.

- **Lavendon** has secured a new **£180 million** banking facility until 2013 replacing its existing facility that is due to expire in September next year.

- Congratulations to **Andrew Winter** of Manchester, based crane hire company **Winterlift**, and his wife on the birth of a baby boy.

- A man was catapulted to his death in **Rana**, Northern Norway after the boom lift he was working from was hit by an overhead crane, he was not wearing a harness.

- **Imai/Jekko**, the spider crane manufacturer, has appointed **VHS** as its distributor for the Benelux region.

- **Storent SIA**, the recently formed Latvian rental company has ordered 20 **Nifty** trailer lifts.

- **Ian Cusak**, the young son of **John Cusak** of Limerick based **Skylift Hire** was very seriously injured after being hit by a car on September 25th. He remains in a coma and in critical condition.

- **New York City** council has voted to approve three pieces of legislation to improve construction safety at sites where tower and climber cranes are in use.

- **Terex** has revised its full year and quarterly forecasts trimming its revenue predictions by 2.5% and its profits by 7%.

- **Peter Hird** the Hull based cranes and access sales, rental and training company has opened a new depot in **Doncaster**.

- **Kobelco Cranes** has appointed Los Angeles based **Continental Crane** as its distributor for California, Oregon and Washington.

- **Patrice Métairie** head of **Haulotte** group customer services has taken over as manager of **Haulotte France**.

- **Northern Crane Services** has acquired **Parkland Crane Service** of **Stony Plain, Alberta**.

- **Genie** has appointed **Luke Webber** as senior compliance and applications engineer to provide direct customer product compliance and application support.



Luke Webber

- **Manitex**, the boom truck and rough terrain forklift manufacturer has acquired **Crane and Machinery Inc.** and **Schaeff Inc.** for **\$3.7 million**.

- **Tanfield** has announced a one week closure of the **Snorkel Plant** in **Elwood Kansas** in late October, in order to match production to current market conditions.

- Finnish base **Ramirent** has appointed **Grigory Grif**, 43, as its country manager, for **Russia**.

- **Loader crane** manufacturer **Hiab**, has received an order for 428 loader cranes and 32 **Multilift** hooklifts from **BAE Systems** for the **US Army**.

- **Higher Platforms** acquired by **Lavendon** in September 2007 has merged with **Panther** under the new **Panther/Lavendon** branding.

- **US based Amquip** crane rental has appointed **Guy Erwin** as its national crawler crane manager.

- **Palfinger** has appointed **Hubert Palfinger junior** as deputy chairman of the supervisory board, taking over from father **Hubert Palfinger**, who retains a seat on the board.

See [www.vertikal.net](http://www.vertikal.net) news archive for full versions of all these stories



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